



NOTICE OF PREPARATION— DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT: EXHIBIT A

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING
976 OSOS STREET • ROOM 200 • SAN LUIS OBISPO • CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5600
Promoting the Wise Use of Land • Helping to Build Great Communities

PROJECT DESCRIPTION FOR SANTA MARGARITA QUARRY EXPANSION PROJECT

PROJECT TITLE: Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific (Santa Margarita Quarry Expansion) Conditional Use Permit/ Reclamation Plan Amendment; DRC2011-00098/DRC2011-00099, ED12-008

PROJECT APPLICANT: Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific

PROJECT LOCATION: The Santa Margarita Quarry (CA State Mine ID # 91-40-003) is located approximately three (3) miles north east of the community of Santa Margarita, within the Salinas River planning area, San Luis Obispo County (see Figure 1). The quarry land is owned by Mission Lakes LLC., DFK LLC., and Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific. The existing quarry is operated by Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific. The property includes Assessor's Parcel Numbers 070-091-037, 070-121-021, 070-131-003, 070-131-018, 070-131-022, 070-141-006, 070-141-054 and 070-154-033. The property address is 16815 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA 93422. The proposed project is within the Rural Lands and Agriculture land use categories and is within the Extractive Resource Area (EX1) Combining Designation Overlay.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Hanson Aggregates Mid-Pacific is requesting a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) and Reclamation Plan Amendment (RPA) to allow for the expansion of the existing surface mine. The purpose of the project is to extend the existing entitled timeframe for mining operations at the Santa Margarita Quarry. The extended entitlement timeframe for mining operations would be achieved by adding an additional 33 acres to the existing entitled 160 acre Reclamation Plan Area boundary. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 193 acres on eight parcels totaling approximately 2.175 acres in size (APN 070-091-037 = 1,708.8 acres, APN 070-121-021 = 73.4 acres, APN 070-131-003 = 205.8 acres, APN 070-131-018 = 5.4 acres, APN 070-131-022 = 78.7 acres, APN 070-141-006 = 35.9, APN 070-141-054 = 50.2 acres, APN 070-154-033 = 17.4 acres). As proposed, the estimated duration of mining activities would be approximately 59 years with an additional 5 years to complete the proposed reclamation plan.

It is estimated that approximately 11,700,000 tons of entitled mining reserves remain under the current entitlement and that the proposed expansion would provide an additional 21,500,000 tons of reserves, for a combined total of 33,200,000 tons of reserves over the proposed duration of the mining activities. The existing entitlement limits the mining operation to a maximum annual extraction of 700,000 tons, which would also be the yearly maximum for the life of the proposed project. The existing entitlement also limits the number of daily truckloads and the operating hours, which would be in place for the life of the proposed project. The existing mining

operation employs 15 full-time positions, and changes are not anticipated in the employment levels as a result of the project.

The project would be implemented in four phases. Each phase would include vegetation removal, topsoil salvaging, and overburden stripping, resource extraction and reclamation. Concurrent reclamation will occur with mining where feasible on benches that have achieved final contours. The initial phase of mining would be within the existing entitled mining footprint and would be identified as Phase I.

Phase I: Phase I mining activities would be a continuation of current operations and would continue until resources are depleted in this Phase; which is estimated to be the year 2031. Approximately 39 acres would be disturbed during this Phase. According to the applicant this phase would yield approximately 10,500,000 tons of production reserves and 1000 tons of overburden removal.

Phase II: Phase II mining activities are anticipated to begin immediately following project approval and would occur concurrently with Phase I. It is estimated that Phase II could be completed by the year 2045. Approximately 13 acres would be disturbed during this Phase. According to the applicant this phase would yield approximately 8,400,000 tons of production reserves and 585,000 tons of overburden removal.

Phase III: Extraction in Phase III would occur in the proposed expansion area and would progress in a northwesterly direction. It is estimated that Phase III would be completed by the year 2061. Approximately 12 acres would be disturbed during this Phase. According to the applicant this phase would yield approximately 9,000,000 tons of production reserves and 526,000 tons of overburden removal.

Phase IV: Phase IV mining activities are anticipated to follow as resources in the previous Phases are depleted and the active mining area continues to progress to the northwesterly direction of the proposed project area. Final reclamation of the project area would be completed in Phase IV and during a Final Reclamation phase. It is estimated that mining activities in Phase IV will be completed by the year 2071. Approximately 11 acres would be disturbed during this Phase. According to the applicant this phase would yield approximately 5,300,000 tons of production reserves and 490,000 tons of overburden removal.

Final Reclamation: The proposed reclamation plan area is approximately 193 acres. Reclamation of the site would consist of slope preparation and re-vegetation. Reclamation would occur after the completion of extractive operations, and generally consist of grading, re-soiling, re-vegetation, and monitoring until reclamation performance standards are met. The proposed mining activities from the four phases would result in the creation of a depression and a number of cut slopes with catch benches around the perimeter. The proposed reclamation plan would adapt the landform into open-space including seasonal water storage, oak woodland habitat, riparian woodland habitat and chaparral vegetation.

Lower lying areas near the Salinas River are proposed to be re-vegetated with a mix of riparian species similar to what is found in the surrounding undisturbed areas. Other disturbed areas of the Reclamation Plan Amendment (RPA) area are proposed to be re-vegetated with a seed mix composed of chaparral and grassland species similar to what is currently growing in the project vicinity. All areas of mining disturbance within the RPA area would be re-vegetated with the

exception of the near-vertical quarry faces between benches, the pit floor, and any other areas where rock outcroppings exist. According to the applicant the RPA area would be fully reclaimed by the year 2076.

REFERENCE MATERIALS: All referenced materials listed below are available on the County of San Luis Obispo web page:

<http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/planning/environmental/EnvironmentalNotices/hansonaggregate.htm?>

- Project Description Santa Margarita Quarry Extension, State Mine ID# 91-40-0003. EnviroMINE, Inc. April 17, 2013.
- Reclamation Plan Amendment Santa Margarita Quarry, State Mine ID# 91-40-0003. EnviroMINE, Inc. April 17, 2013.
- Greenhouse Gas Assessment Santa Margarita Quarry Extension. AMBIENT Air Quality & Noise Consulting. May 5, 2012.
- Traffic Impact Analysis Santa Margarita Quarry Extension, Job # 16611-O. Rick Engineering Company. May 15, 2012.
- Drainage Report Santa Margarita Quarry. Chang Consultants. April 18, 2013.
- Geotechnical Investigation and Design Recommendations Santa Margarita Quarry, Project No. 073-97199. Golder Associates. March 2012/Revised June 2012.
- Hydro Geologic Evaluation Santa Margarita Quarry Extension, Project No.073-97199. Golder Associates. March 2012.
- Phase I Archaeological & Paleontological Survey, APN: 070-131-003 Hanson Quarry, Project No. 46-770. Cultural Resource Management Services. January 25, 2011.
- Environmental Noise Assessment Santa Margarita Quarry Extension Project, Job #2011-064. Bollard Acoustical Consultants, Inc. April 24, 2012.
- Preliminary Determination of Waters of the U.S. Santa Margarita Quarry. WRA Environmental Consultants. April 2012.
- Biological Resources Assessment Report Santa Margarita Quarry. WRA Environmental Consultants. May 2012.
- Oak Woodland Assessment Report Santa Margarita Quarry. WRA Environmental Consultants. April 2012.
- Rare Plant Survey Report Santa Margarita Quarry. WRA Environmental Consultants. April 2012/ Addendum September 2012.
- Visual Analysis Report Lehigh-Hanson Quarry Extension, Santa Margarita, CA. Wallace Group. April 24, 2012.